

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Bartholomew Chilton, of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for a term expiring April 13, 2013.

Colin Scott Cole Fulton, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Alejandro N. Mayorkas, of California, to be Director of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

2 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

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Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—199)

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Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 8:21 p.m., until 9 a.m. on Thursday, May 21, 2009. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5766.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Department of State, after receiving testimony from Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State.

APPROPRIATIONS: FOREST SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Forest Service, after receiving testimony from Abigail Kimbell, Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

MILITARY SPACE PROGRAMS BUDGET

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded open and closed hearings to examine the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2010 and Future Years Defense Program for military space programs, after receiving testimony from Gary E. Payton, Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force for Space Programs, General C. Robert Kehler, USAF, Commander, Air Force Space Command, Lieutenant General Larry D. James, USAF, Commander, 14th Air Force, Air Force Space Command, and Commander, Joint Functional Component Command for Space, Strategic Command, and Vice Admiral Harry B. Harris, Jr., USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Communication Networks, all of the Department of Defense; and Cristina T. Chaplain, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office.

ACTIVE COMPONENT, RESERVE COMPONENT, AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL PROGRAM BUDGET

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel concluded a hearing to examine the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2010 and Future Years Defense Program for active component, reserve component, and civilian personnel programs, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General Michael D. Rochelle, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff G–1, United States Army, Lieutenant General Richard Y. Newton III, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower and Personnel, United States Air Force, Vice Admiral Mark E. Ferguson III, USN, Chief of Naval Personnel, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education, United States Navy, and Lieutenant General Ronald S. Coleman, USMC, Deputy Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, United States Marine Corps, all of the Department of Defense; and Colonel Steven P. Strobbridge, USAF (Ret.), Military Officers Association of America, Dierdre Parke Holleman, Retired Enlisted Association, Master Chief Joseph L. Barnes, USN (Ret.), Fleet Reserve Association, Captain Ike Puzon, USNR (Ret.), Naval Reserve Association and Guard/Reserve Committee, all of The Military Coalition; and Captain Bradley J. Snyder, USA (Ret.), Armed Forces Services Corporation.

TROUBLED ASSET RELIEF PROGRAM

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP), after receiving testimony from Tim Geithner, Secretary of the Treasury.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 380, to expand the boundaries of the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve, with an amendment;

S. 212, to expand the boundaries of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary, with an amendment;

S. 859, to amend the provisions of law relating to the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program;

S. 601, to establish the Weather Mitigation Research Office, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1023, to establish a non-profit corporation to communicate United States entry policies and otherwise promote leisure, business, and scholarly travel to the United States, with an amendment;

S. 38, to establish a United States Boxing Commission to administer the Act;

S. 685, to require new vessels for carrying oil fuel to have double hulls, with an amendment; and

The nominations of J. Randolph Babbitt, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, and John D. Porcari, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary, both of the Department of Transportation, Rebecca M. Blank, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, and Lawrence E. Strickling, of Illinois, to be Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, both of the Department of Commerce, Aneesh Chopra, of Virginia, to be Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and routine lists in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH REFORM

Committee on Finance: Committee met in closed session to examine financing comprehensive health reform.

STRATEGY FOR SOMALIA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on African Affairs concluded a hearing to examine developing a coordinated and sustainable strategy for Somalia, after receiving testimony from Johnnie Carson, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs; Ken Menkhaus, Davidson College, Davidson, North Carolina; and Shannon Scribner, Oxfam America, Washington, DC.

PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing to examine developments on the ground in Pakistan and Afghanistan from representatives from the Joint Chiefs of Staffs.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Robert Orris Blake, Jr., of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for South Asian Affairs, and Judith A. McHale, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy, both of the Department of State.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS BUDGET

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2010 for international affairs, after receiving testimony from Hillary R. Clinton, Secretary of State.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 599, to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to create a presumption that a disability or death of a Federal employee in fire protection activities caused by any certain diseases is the result of the performance of such employee's duty, with an amendment;

S. 629, to facilitate the part-time reemployment of annuitants, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 707, to enhance the Federal Telework Program, with an amendment;

S. 1064, Enhanced Oversight of State and Local Economic Recovery Act, with amendments;

S. 920, to amend section 11317 of title 40, United States Code, to improve the transparency of the status of information technology investments, to require greater accountability for cost overruns on Federal information technology investment projects, to improve the processes agencies implement to manage information technology investments, to reward excellence in information technology acquisition, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 942, to prevent the abuse of Government charge cards;

S. 469, to amend chapter 83 of title 5, United States Code, to modify the computation for part-time service under the Civil Service Retirement System;

S. 692, to provide that claims of the United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall be treated as waived and relinquished in certain circumstances;

H.R. 918, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 300 East 3rd Street in Jamestown, New York, as the "Stan Lundine Post Office Building";

H.R. 1595, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3245 Latta Road in Rochester, New York, as the “Brian K. Schramm Post Office Building”;

H.R. 663, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12877 Broad Street in Sparta, Georgia, as the “Yvonne Ingram-Ephraim Post Office Building”;

H.R. 1284, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 103 West Main Street in McLain, Mississippi, as the “Major Ed W. Freeman Post Office”;

The nominations of David Heyman, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, Cass R. Sunstein, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Robert M. Groves, of Michigan, to be Director of the Census, Department of Commerce, Marisa J. Demeo, of the District of Columbia, and Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, each to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Disaster Recovery concluded a hearing to examine the role of Community Development Block Grant Program in disaster recovery, after receiving testimony from Frederick Tombar, Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development; Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour, Jackson; Paul Rainwater, Louisiana Recovery Authority, Baton Rouge; Charles S. Stone, State of Texas Office of Rural Community Affairs, and Karen Paup, Texas Low Income Housing Information Service, both of Austin; Dominique Duval-Diop, PolicyLink, and Melanie Ehrlich, Citizens’ Road Home Action Team, both of New Orleans, Louisiana; and Reilly Morse, Mississippi Center for Justice Katrina Recovery Office, Biloxi.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 982, to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, with amendments; and

The nominations of Linda A. Puchala, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Mediation Board, John Q. Easton, of Illinois, to be Director of the Institute of Education Science, Department of Education, and Seth David Harris, of New Jersey, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor.

SECURING THE BORDER AND POINTS OF ENTRY

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration, Refugees and Border Security concluded a hearing to examine securing the border and America’s points of entry, after receiving testimony from former Representative Hayworth; John P. Torres, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Operations, David V. Aguilar, Chief, Office of Border Patrol, and Thomas Winkowski, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations, all of United States Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security; Mayor Chad Foster, Eagle Pass, Texas; Richard Wiles, El Paso County Sheriff, El Paso, Texas; Douglas S. Massey, Princeton University Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton, New Jersey; and Sam F. Vale, Starr-Camargo Bridge Co., Rio Grande City, Texas.

HEALTH CARE FRAUD

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs concluded a hearing to examine criminal prosecution as a deterrent to health care fraud, after receiving testimony from Lanny A. Breur, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice; Sean Dilweg, Wisconsin State Commissioner of Insurance, Madison; Malcolm K. Sparrow, Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge, Massachusetts; and Sheri Farrar, Health Care Services Corporation, Chicago, Illinois.

PENSION PLANS

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine pension plans, after receiving testimony from Barbara D. Bovbjerg, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; Rebecca Anne Batts, Inspector General, Vincent K. Snowbarger, Acting Director, and Charles E.F. Millard, former Director, all of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation; and Dallas Salisbury, Employee Benefit Research Institute, Washington, DC.